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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
BRAZIL

IPF:(1992-96) $14 183 000

(BRA/90/021) - Integrated System for Forestry Fire Prevention and Control (Supplementary Assistance)

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	17 March 1993
Expected duration:	Five years and six months
Proposed executing agency:	Government
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Environment
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$3 390 000 Source of funds: IPF
Previous UNDP contribution:	$ 760 200
Total UNDP budget:	$4 150 200

Project background

Forest fires and burnings are the major cause of natural ecosystems destruction, soil fertility loss, greenhouse gases emissions, and innumerable socioeconomic losses in Brazil. The average area burnt during the last five years was 30 million hectares. The regions mostly damaged are not only the Amazonian and Atlantic rainforests but also the savannah and shrubland vegetation locally known as "cerrado" located in the agricultural frontier in the Central and West regions of the country.

In 1989 a National System for Fire Prevention and Control was created within the IBAMA to start actions concerning the assessment and control of the problem. Due to the significant lack of national experience in the area, the Government requested UNDP assistance to create a national capacity to carry out initial actions at the federal level. As a result project the above-mentioned project was started in January 1991. The project has until now provided consultancies in fire management, remote sensing, fire training, fire prevention and others; and has also established a system for fire monitoring through satellites, facilitated the signature of agreements with the U.S. Forest Service, as well as provided initial training of IBAMA's personnel.

A Fire Managerial and Operational Plan was also conceived and formulated during this phase and involves many institutions at the state and federal levels that are increasingly committed with forest fires prevention and control. A number of new technical and managerial issues have been identified during project implementation requiring technical cooperation, mainly due to the vast dimensions of the fire problem. Therefore, the Government is requesting further UNDP assistance to increase training substantially, provide the technical assistance necessary to establish the National System for Wildfires and

[1/] **This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.**

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Burnings Prevention, formulate a National Programme for the sector, and strengthen the assistance at the state level and the work in priority regions and pilot areas.

Description of project

The long-term objective of the project is to reduce social, economic and environmental losses caused by burning and wildland fires through the establishment of the National System of Forest Fire Prevention and Control. This objective is included in the third area of the Fifth Country Programme: "Environment and Development".

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) strengthen the capacity of IBAMA to effectively coordinate and implement the activities of the National System for Wildland Fires and Burnings Prevention and Control; (b) obtain technical and scientific information on fire behaviour and its effects to assist in fire prevention, combat and management actions; and (c) establish training programmes to improve the technical capacity of the federal and state institutions to prevent, control and combat burnings and wildland fires.

The main outputs will include: (1) a Federal Training Programme and State Training Units established (courses with 700 participants); (2) eight Fire Monitoring State Centers in operation; (3) 12 Conservation Units structured for fire prevention; (4) a National Programme for forest fires and burnings; (5) a System of Controlled Burnings Authorization implemented; (6) a System of Continuous Fire Monitoring improved; and (7) one Fire Laboratory installed. By the end of the project it is expected that the IBAMA and state institutions responsible for forest fires will be prepared to act in fire and burnings prevention, monitoring and combat at the management, technical, scientific and operational levels.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 43 work-months of international consultancies: approximately 330 work-months of national consultancies; meteorological, geoprocessing, communication, audiovisual and computer equipment; fire control equipment for training and demonstration activities; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	1 622 000
Subcontract	30 000
Training	558 000
Equipment	1 037 000
Miscellaneous	143 000
Total	3 390 000

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